Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: GERMAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL TALKS

1. GERMAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON INDICATED TO US TODAY THAT DR. ARNOLD EXPECTED TO RELINQUISH HIS DUTIES IN MAY AND

ASSUME HIS DUTIES IN ROME IN EARLY JUNE. HE THEREFORE QUERIED WHETHER PROPOSED GERMAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL TALKS APR 26-27 SHOULD PROCEED AS SCHEDULED.

- 2. IN OUR RESPONSE WE INDICATED THAT WE UNDERSTOOD DR. ARNOLD'S HESITANCY BUT BELIEVED THAT IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT CULTURAL TALKS HAD ALREADY BEEN POSTPONED FROM JANUARY TO LATE APRIL IT WOULD PROBABLY BE PREFERABLE TO GO AHEAD EVEN IF DR. ARNOLD WERE TO BE REPRESENTED BY HIS DEPUTY. A FURTHER POSTPONEMENT UNTIL THE FALL OF THIS YEAR WOULD CAUSE ANNUAL MEETINGS TO BE EVEN MORE OUT OF PHASE.
- 3. FYI: WE BELIEVE THAT HOLDING OF MEETING MAY BE USE-UNCLASSIFIED

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FUL IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATIONS FOR CSCE, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO CULTURAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE GDR AND THAT MEETING WILL ALSO BE USEFUL IN FORCING GERMAN HAND ON ACADEMIC EQUIVALENCY DISCUSSIONS AS WELL AS ENABLING US TO

DISCUSS WITH THEM IN GREATER DETAIL PROPOSED UNESCO EUROPEAN REGION CONVENTION ON RECOGNITION OF DEGREES AND

DIPLOMAS. END FYI.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S EARLIEST COMMENTS AS WELL AS POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS FOR AGENDA. CHRISTOPHER

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